

programs through an innovative partnership which brings together dedicated teachers, businesspeople, and community volunteers with students. Baldwin's programs have been a bridge of understanding which have highlighted the talents and determination of its young people and the devotion of the teachers, businesspeople, and community volunteers who give their time and commitment to mentoring.

The mentoring process brings benefits to youth, the caring adults who guide them, and by extension to the community, the business world, and the region, and Baldwin's innovative mentoring program is outstanding.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my thanks and recognition to the Baldwin School District.

IN HONOR OF HOSPICE OF THE
WESTERN RESERVE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Hospice of the Western Reserve as it celebrates the opening of its Lakewood office. The new office will enable the Hospice to provide more quality care to the people of Lakewood.

Hospice of the Western Reserve is a community-based agency that provides comfort and care as well as emotional support to its patients and their families. Regardless of age, disease, or ability to pay, all are welcomed to the Hospice. Serving more than 1,000 patients daily, The Hospice of the Western Reserve is the largest program of its kind in Ohio and the fourth largest in the country.

In addition to pain alleviation, the Hospice also offers social, psychosocial and spiritual support for both patients and family members. The Hospice is ever increasing its ability to provide quality care and support and enhancing quality of life.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the Hospice of the Western Reserve and the opening of its Lakewood office. Providing quality assistance to those who need it most, the Hospice stands as a monument to palliative care and end-of-life service.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN CADET
ALLIANCE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support and appreciation for the American Cadet Alliance and its recent establishment of a cadet unit located at the Hammer Field Army National Guard Armory in Fresno, CA. Tracing its heritage to 1909, the American Cadet Alliance is America's oldest nationwide Cadet Corps.

The American Cadet Alliance was founded as the Colonel Cody's Boy Scouts by Captain James H.C. Smyth in 1909. Shortly thereafter, the Colonel Cody's Boy Scouts was reorga-

nized as the American Naval and Marine Scouts. The American Naval and Marine Scouts continued to evolve and through numerous reorganization efforts, the efforts of the American Nautical Alliance, Inc., and the Maritime Brigade came full circle with the eventual merger of the two to form the American Cadet Alliance, Inc.

The American Cadet Alliance is led by a team of professional officers who currently serve on a voluntary basis. The American Cadet Alliance is a career-exploration program, providing young men and women with realistic view of military life, allowing them to make informed decisions regarding future service in the Armed Forces. Through a multifaceted cadet program, the importance of national pride, service to others, and maintaining a drug-free and gang-free lifestyle serve as hallmarks of the American Cadet Alliance message.

Under the leadership and sponsorship provided by the Central California Chapter of the Association of the United States Army, and with assistance from the Fresno Recruiting Company of the United States Army Recruiting Command, and guidance from local, State, national Military leaders, current and prospective participants will prove to benefit from the character building skills evident throughout the cadet program.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support of the American Cadet Alliance unit in Fresno, CA, and to extend my sincere appreciation to all of the local efforts to ensure this program's success. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the American Cadet Alliance many years of continued success.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF POLAND IN AFGHANISTAN
AND IRAQ

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the contributions Poland has made in the ongoing operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. Poland has been a steadfast ally of the United States, and I thank the Polish people and government for their friendship.

America has enjoyed strong ties with Poland since our Nation's founding. During the American Revolution, Polish patriots such as Casimir Pulaski and Tadeusz Kosciuszko made valuable contributions in securing our Nation's independence. Today, over 30 percent of my district and 9 million Americans across our country can claim Polish ancestry.

The Polish and American Governments have enjoyed close, bilateral relations since 1989, when Poland became a free, democratic, and independent nation. Since that time, Poland has made dramatic strides in securing its democracy, improving its economy, and developing strong relationships with its neighbors in Europe and abroad. This is evident in Poland's joining of NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004.

In addition to its membership in NATO, Poland's military has been very active in United Nations' peacekeeping forces and has played a vital role in the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. Poland currently has 1,000 troops

deployed in Iraq, and when a recent call went out to NATO nations asking for reinforcements to Afghanistan, Poland was the first to respond, pledging 900 additional troops to that country.

Today, along with the Caucus on Central and Eastern Europe, I had the honor of hosting the chief of general staff of Polish Armed Forces, General Gabor. General Gabor is a distinguished soldier and a proven leader. I have no doubt that under General Gabor's watch the Polish military will continue to make valuable contributions to peace around the world.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Poland's contributions in Afghanistan and Iraq and to recognize Poland as one of our Nation's most important allies.

NATIONAL ADDICTION RECOVERY
MONTH

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call our attention to National Addiction Recovery Month this September, and I encourage all my colleagues to join me in recognizing and commending those who commit their time and effort to addiction recovery.

In 2005, an estimated 19 million Americans used illicit drugs. The impact of this pandemic is felt not only by individuals and their families, but by society as well. Addiction costs our society and economy billions of dollars each year, in health care costs, property damage, and lost productivity. It also costs lives, and causes immense amounts of grief and pain. Addiction is a disease, and it must be attacked as such. No one is immune from addiction, as it afflicts people of all ages, all races, all classes, and all professions.

As with any serious disease, the treatment for addiction relies on great amounts of research and advances in health sciences. There have been tremendous strides in the fight against addiction. Congress allocates billions of dollars each year on addiction research at the National Institutes of Health. The NIH is a leader in this regard, and it has committed funds to research on addiction, including research on how addiction takes over the brain, the body, and the central nervous system. We must continue to fund NIH at the level it deserves so scientists can unlock the mysteries of addiction and its impact on individuals and society.

Today, September 20, 2006, is National Addiction Professionals Day, and I applaud the hard work and dedication of addiction counselors who must encounter daily the difficult task of prevention, intervention, and treatment. The research on addiction that NIH conducts can only support and complement the addiction counselors' efforts in helping many Americans afflicted with addiction. We need to give them all of the support we can.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the valuable contributions of all those who devote their time and energy to addiction recovery. We should honor and appreciate their hard work. Congress has shown strong support for this issue. However, we are far from victory, and we must continue